What was Wrong with Judah?

Ezekiel 22:23-31
Ezekiel 22:23–31 (ESV)

23 And the word of the L ORD came to me: 24 “Son of man, say to her, You are a land that is not cleansed or rained upon in the day of indignation. ... 31 Therefore I have poured out my indignation upon them. I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath. I have returned their way upon upon their heads, declares the Lord GOD.”
Four Problems with Judah

• The Prophets
Ezekiel 22:25 (ESV)

25 The conspiracy of her prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured human lives; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in her midst.
Four Problems with Judah

• The Prophets
• The Priests
Ezekiel 22:26 (ESV)

26 Her priests have done violence to my law and have profaned my holy things. They have made no distinction between the holy and the common, neither have they taught the difference between the unclean and the clean, and they have disregarded my Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them.
Four Problems with Judah

• The Prophets
• The Priests
• The Princes
Her princes in her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, shedding blood, destroying lives to get dishonest gain.
Ezekiel 22:28 (ESV)

28 And her prophets have smeared whitewash for them, seeing false visions and divining lies for them, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,’ when the LORD has not spoken.
Four Problems with Judah

• The Prophets
• The Priests
• The Princes
• The People
The people of the land have practiced extortion and committed robbery. They have oppressed the poor and needy, and have extorted from the sojourner without justice.
One Possible Solution

• A Righteous and Brave Person
Ezekiel 22:30 (ESV)

30 And I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land, that I should not destroy it...
The Sad Conclusion

Ezekiel 22:30–31 (ESV) — 30 And I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land, that I should not destroy it, but I found none. 31 Therefore I have poured out my indignation upon them. I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath. I have returned their way upon their heads, declares the Lord God.”
Our Land has the Same Problems

- The Prophets
- The Priests
- The Princes
- The People
Will God Find You...?

• ... building up the wall?
• ... standing in the breach?
• ... standing before Him?
• ... standing for the land?
• ... so that God will not destroy it?
Ezekiel 22:30 (ESV)

30 And I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land, that I should not destroy it...